

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Bernhard Wolf, et al    §  
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Conf. No.:                      Not yet assigned    § Group Art Unit: 1651  
                                                                 §  
Appln. No.:                      Not yet assigned    § Examiner:              Not yet assigned  
                                                                 §  
Filing Date:                      Filed herewith    § Attorney Docket No.: **10051-4U1**  
                                                                 §                                      (MIC115US-DIV)  
Title:    PROCESS FOR STRUCTURING A SURFACE LAYER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A, which cites documents which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Copies of the documents were previously cited by and/or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in related Application No. 09/585,146, filed June 1, 2000 (the "prior application"). The present application relies, under 35 U.S.C. §120, on the filing date of the prior application. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, but will be provided on request. However, copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed.

Reference DD 285 534 A7 was cited in an International Search Report of May 7, 1999, from the European Patent Office concerning counterpart International Application No. PCT/EP98/07597 (copy enclosed).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure

Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed documents be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

**BERNHARD WOLF, ET AL**

October 24, 2003  
(Date)

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Enclosures

## Express Mail Label No.: EV 055609034 US

Form PTO/SB/08A		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Application Number</b>	Not yet assigned
		<b>Filing Date</b>	Filed herewith
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Bernhard Wolf, et al
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1651
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Not yet assigned
Sheet 1 of 1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	10051-4U1 (MIC115US-DIV)	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of First Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	4,924,091		Hansma	05-1990
	5,031,099		Kettler	07-1991
	5,408,312		Pries	04-1995
	5,442,443		Guerra	08-1995
	5,510,628		Georger, Jr.	04-1996
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	6,033,916		Sieben	03-2000
	6,148,096		Pressman	11-2000
	6,198,532		Cabib	03-2001
	6,280,586		Wolf	08-2001

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	DD	285 534	A7	Fischer	12-1990
	EP	0 749 010	A2	Takahashi	12-1996

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.		
	Streckfuss, et al., "Analysis of Trace Metals on Silicon Surfaces," <i>Fresenius' Journal of Analytical Chemistry</i> , pp. 765-768 (1992)		
	International Search Report Dated May 7, 1999 in International Application PCT/EP98/07597		
	German Office Action dated July 29, 1998 in Counterpart German Patent Application 197 53 790.1-52		
	* selected portions only		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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T<sub>1</sub> - Place a check mark if English language translation is attached.